

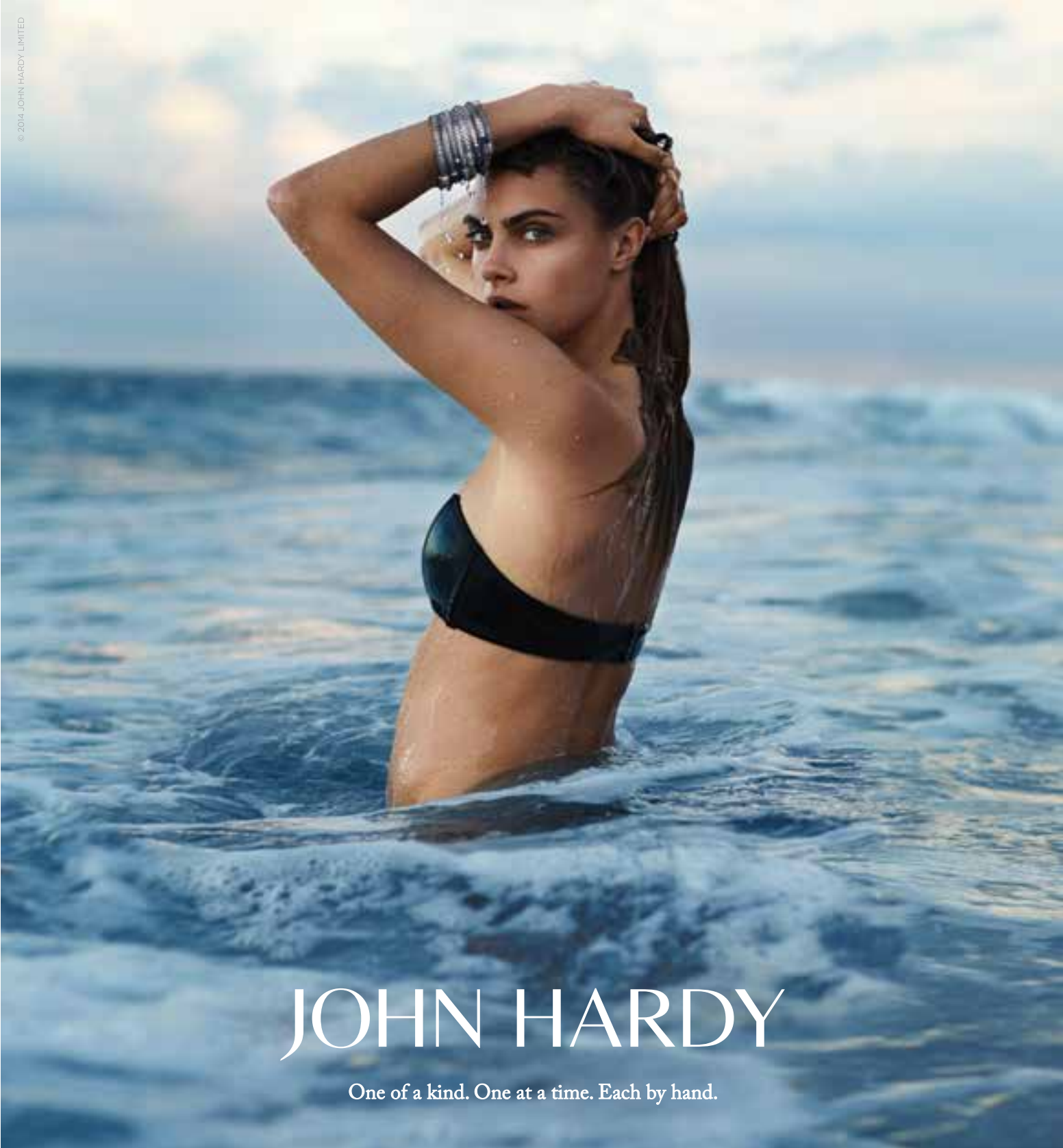
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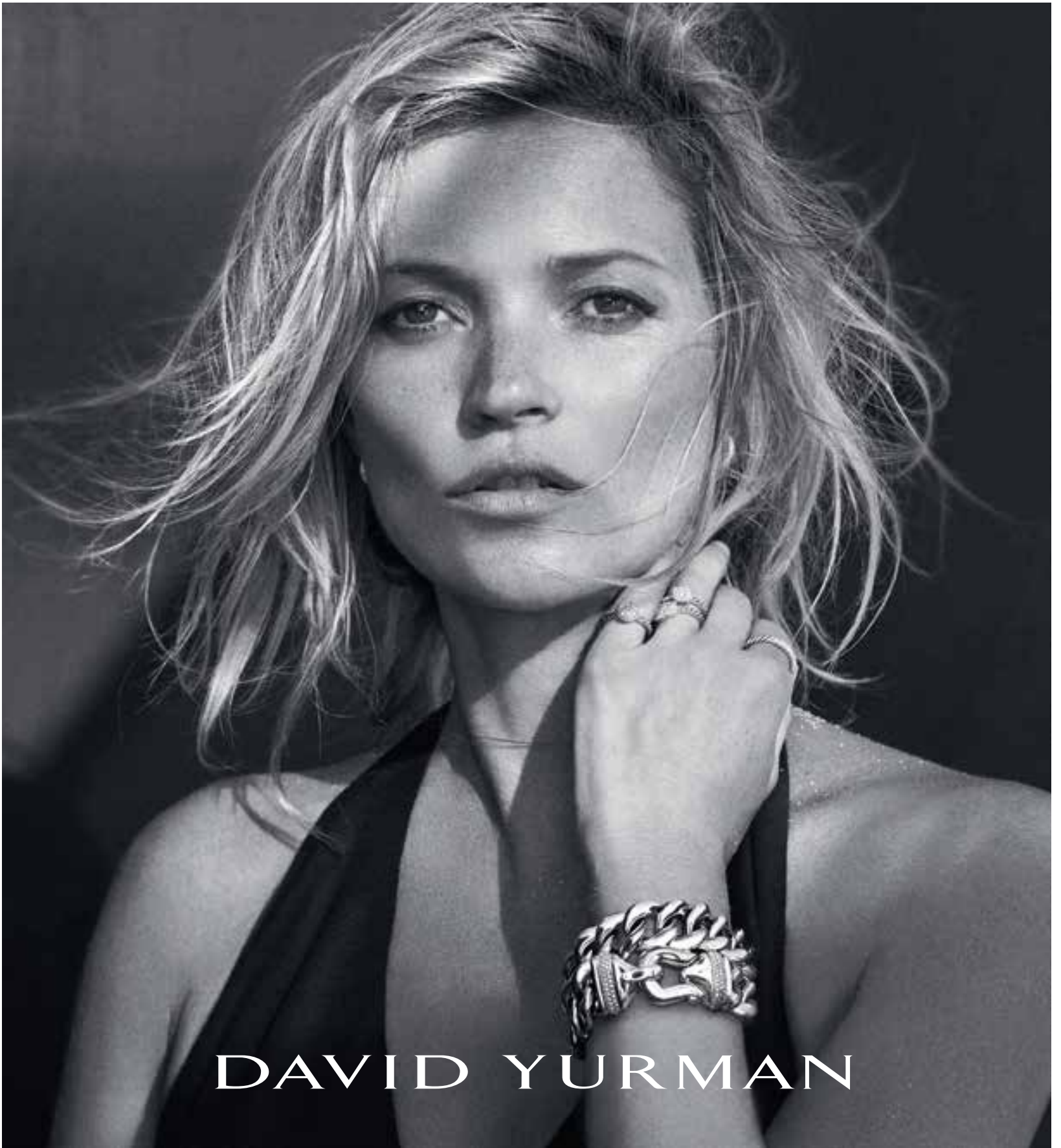
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WHAT'S INSIDE

departments

- 10 Message from the *Island Temptations Team*
- 12 Calendar of Events
Schedule of Events
- 26 Fashion Attractions
Wild Blooms
- 48 Island Life
A Palapa's Life
- 52 Extreme Temptations
Salty Women!
- 64 Dining Out
Viva Mexico, Viva Italia
- 70 Artisan's Workshop
Where Nature Meets Art
- 74 Adventures of an Expat
So, what's it like living in Aruba?
- 78 Real Estate
Isla Bonita Residences
- 80 Island Pulse
- 86 New Arrivals
- 97 Menu Temptations
A Sampling of Aruba's
Finest Restaurants



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A promise to our readers

O

ur crew is dedicated to going beyond beaches to bring our readers the sights, sounds, and tastes of Aruba. Each edition will contain fresh features and photography spotlighting the local personalities that make this island such a remarkable corner of the world.

Our writers will continue to peel back the cultural layers and introduce you to the talented artists, musicians, chefs, and everyday folk who make Aruba “One Happy Island” and a place you will want to return to again and again.

The *Island Temptations* Crew

Our Front COVER

Arantxa Vieira Alves sparkles in earrings and a ring by Carla Amorim from the Universe Collection, available exclusively at Gandelman. Dress and belt available at D shop. Purse and shoes by Michael Kors. Photography by Steve Keith. Art direction by Tina Causey-Bislick. Styled by Veronica Van Der Dys. Hair by Maggy's Perfumes, Cosmetics & Salons, and makeup by Andrew Curiel. See our Buyer's Guide on page 47 for more information.



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Calendar of Events

Every Tuesday • BONBINI FESTIVAL

Bonbini means "Welcome!" in Papiamentu, and this weekly folkloric music and dance festival is the perfect introduction to the warmth and hospitality of Aruba's people. The Bonbini Festival takes place in downtown Oranjestad every Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the outdoor courtyard of Fort Zoutman, Aruba's oldest building.

Every Thursday • CARUBBIAN FESTIVAL

The Carubbian Festival takes place in San Nicolas every Thursday night from 6 p.m. – 10 p.m., showcasing the multicultural charms of Aruba's "Sunrise City." The center of activities is a stage area around which the audience can relax and enjoy a taste of delicious Aruban and Caribbean cuisine and a parade of local entertainers. Closed to traffic, the main street is a pedestrian mall filled with colorful booths selling food, handicrafts, and souvenirs, with fun activities for the whole family. Packages including round trip transportation are sold at hotels.

March 15 • 30th ARUBA INTERNATIONAL HALF MARATHON (21 K)

International competitors participate in Aruba's longest road race covering the length of the island from San Nicolas to Oranjestad. The race begins at 5:00 a.m. Registration on Feb. 8, 2015. Contact IBISA at Tel. (297) 582-4987, Fax (297) 583-6478, or Email ibisaaruba@gmail.com / juan.dake@aruba.gov.aw for additional information or registration.

March 18 • NATIONAL FLAG AND ANTHEM DAY

A strong sense of pride is displayed each year as Arubans celebrate their "Status Aparte" and the Flag and Anthem Day. An impressive folkloric production marking the holiday is held each year at Plaza Betico Croes in Oranjestad. This official holiday also features many cultural events showcasing the local gastronomy of Aruba, as well as sporting events and organized games for both adults and kids around the island.

April 22 • EARTH DAY

The first Earth Day on April 22, 1970, activated 20 million Americans from all walks of life, and is widely credited with launching the modern environmental movement. Growing out of the first Earth Day, Earth Day Network (EDN) works with over 22,000 partners in 192 countries to broaden, diversify, and mobilize the environmental movement. Here on Aruba, many resorts and businesses celebrate Earth Day with interactive events and activities to promote awareness.

April 14-25 • 13th AHATA RECYCLED ART COMPETITION

This public awareness campaign for adults and kids promotes the collection and re-use of old articles to create recycled art. Last day for registration is April 5. Contact AHATA at Tel. (297) 582-2607, Fax (297) 582-4202, or Email vanessa@ahata.com. Exposition Venue: Cas di Cultura

April 26 • 55th INTERNATIONAL BOULEVARD RACE (10K)

Aruba's most popular running race draws over 200 competitors from countries including Aruba, Venezuela, Colombia, Netherlands Antilles, USA, and Holland. The 10K event starts at 5:30 p.m. on L.G. Smith Blvd. and ends at the Marriott parking lot. Entry forms will be issued in February. Contact Vanessa Tromp at Tel. (297) 593-5801 or Email arruwac@gmail.com for additional information.

April 27 • KING'S BIRTHDAY

An official government ceremony in honor of King Willem Alexander is followed by numerous sporting events and family-friendly celebrations. Sports competitions, kite-flying contests, and fun-filled activities are held at various sites including community centers.

May 1-3 • SAIL ARUBA 2015

The largest event planned around the festivities commemorating the 200-year existence of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, to be held at the Port of Oranjestad. Visitors will be able to enjoy a seafood festival, a sail-in cinema, the Sail Aruba Races, miniature boat races, a walking tour in Oranjestad, live music, food and refreshment tents, a BBQ cook-off, and to top it all off, a final night of international music. For information and updates follow us on www.facebook.com/sailaruba or visit our website, www.sailaruba.com. Contact Sanne Fetlaar Tel. (297) 736-2012 for additional information.

May 20-25 • 15th EDITION ARUBA SOUL BEACH MUSIC FESTIVAL 2015

Held on Memorial Day holiday weekend, the Aruba Soul Beach Music Festival is a star-studded, two-night concert series that has featured such artists as Maze, Sean Paul, Chaka Khan, Wyclef Jean, India Arie, the Gap Band, Boyz II Men, Lauryn Hill, Nina Sky, Anthony Hamilton, Alicia Keys, Brian McKnight, Wayne Brady, Estelle, Jamie Fox, Etana, Robin Thicke, Common, Toni Braxton, MJ Blidge, Joe Thomas, Raheem DeVaughn, Jennifer Hudson, Christie Michele and Heads of State, R Kelly, LL Cool J, Ledisi, Melanie Fiona, Ne-yo, D'Angelo, Elle Varner, Tania, Sinbad, Damon Williams, Babyface, Ashanti, and SWV. Venue: TBD. Contact Aruba Tourism Authority at Tel. (297) 582-3777 or Fax (297) 583-7403, or visit www.aruba.com / www.soulbeach.net for additional information.



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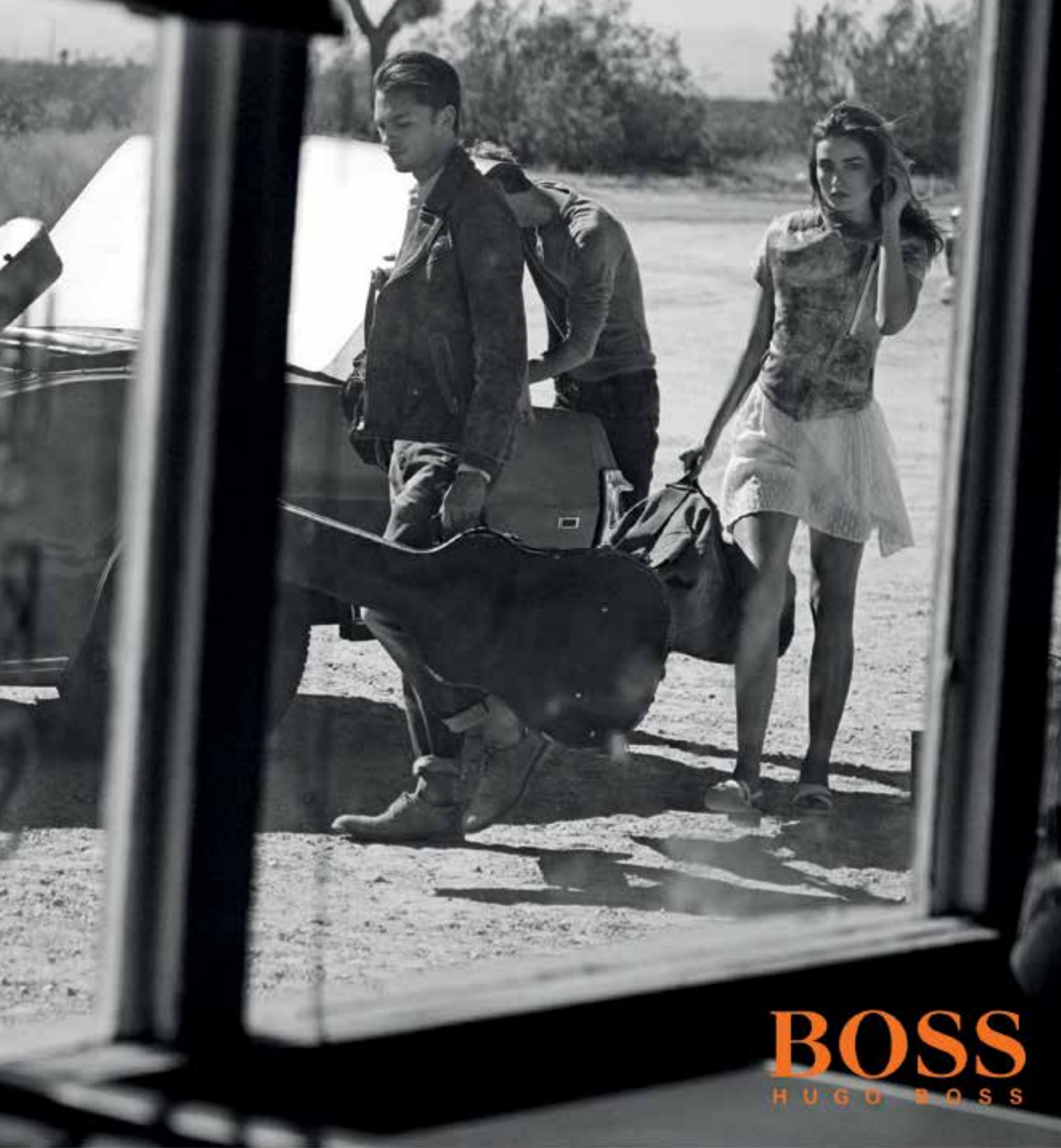
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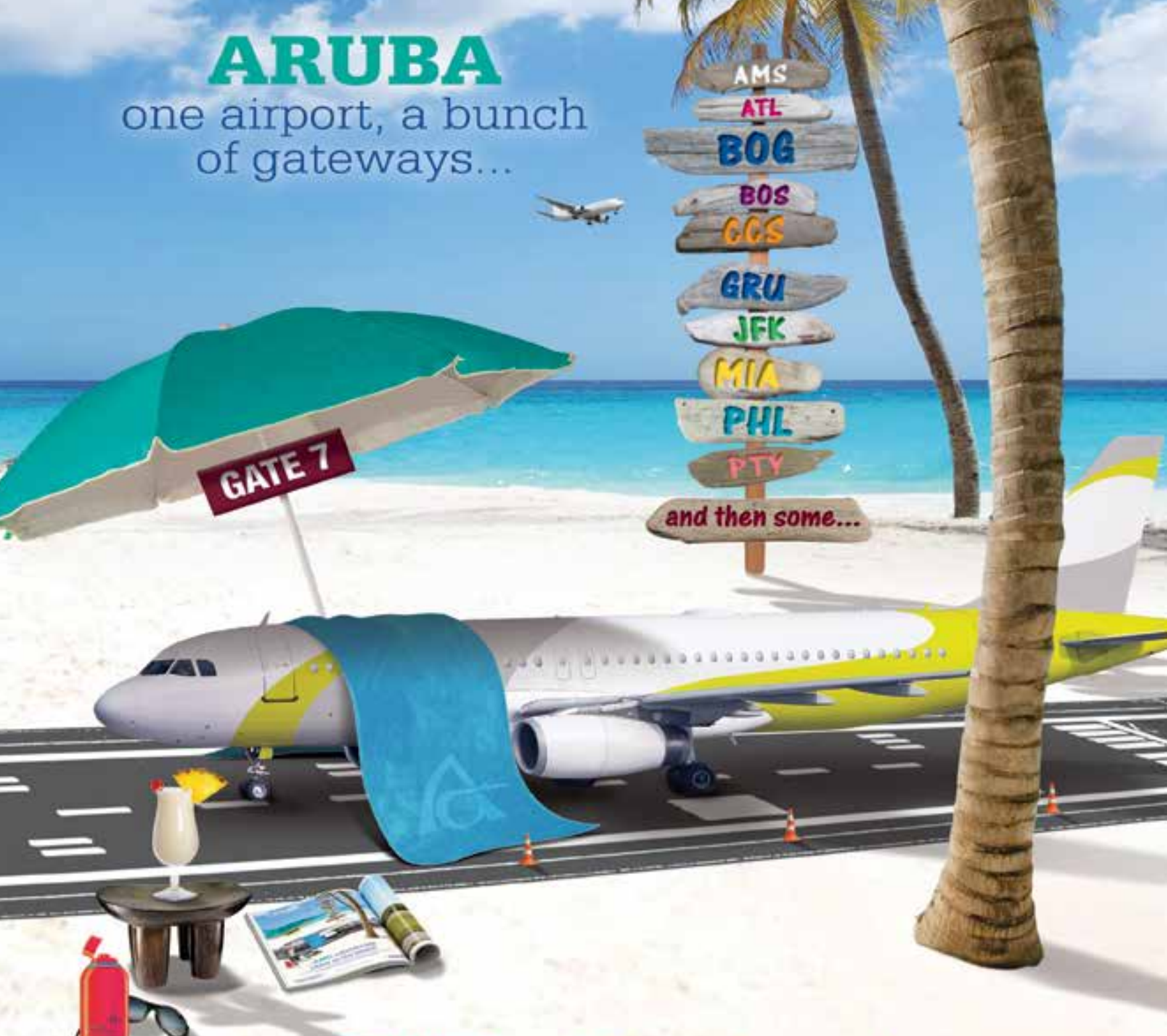
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The “IT” Hit List

These are some fab finds and favorites that our crew and our friends have discovered over the past few months on the island



Guerlain's Petrouchka Eye & Blush Palette at Maggy's Perfume, Cosmetics & Salons

“This gorgeous palette’s case is too cool to keep in your drawer—it fits perfectly in a clutch purse, so it’s handy for touch-ups when out on the town. I think of these shades as nighttime neutrals because they are shimmery and buttery with great pigmentation, and the tones work well for just about every skin tone. Ditto for the blush and lip color palettes—cool, neutral colors in both satin and matte options.”

Tina Causey-Bislick



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Photo by Rob Arismendi
Model: Miss World Aruba 2014 Joitza Henriquez
Make up Artist: Peter Castillo - Guerlain Regional Training Manager Americas



Superfood Salad at Yemanja

“This salad is power-packed with all that is right in the world—spinach, kale, edamame, avocado, red cabbage, pomegranate, blueberries, snow peas, pumpkin seeds, alfalfa sprouts, shitake mushrooms, snow peas, radishes, and a carrot-ginger dressing...who needs a multivitamin after eating Chef Joyce’s creation?!”

Rona Coster

Temporary Tattoos from YOLO

“Be a rebel for a day and slap one of these artistic and fashionable temporary tattoos on. It’s a fun bikini accessory, too!”

Brianna Escobedo



Buleria Band

“Newly formed in 2014, this band of talented musicians and singers delivers a hot Latin sound that made it the hit of the holiday party season, and now it’s taking its sound to the street during Carnival parades and events.”

Rona Coster

Reusable Bags at The Coconut Trading Co., The Juggling Fish, and The Lazy Lizard

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Debbie Kunder





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Photography by Steve Keith
Art Direction by Tina Causey-Bislick
Shoot coordination by Rona Coster
Styling by Veronica Van Der Dys

Wild

Blooms

D

resses take flight in our spring fashion pictorial. Just about anything goes this season—from solids and florals to bold colors and muted pastels. Although the well-known beaches of the hotel areas are beautiful in their own right, the dramatic landscapes of Aruba's "wild side" provide a bouquet of contrasting and breathtaking magnificence. Hair by Maggy's Perfumes, Cosmetics & Salon. Makeup by Andrew Curiel and Beauty Team. All jewelry provided by Gandelman. 



*Yellow-gold hoop earrings, mobile chain, and woven cuff
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Caftan by EZ Eva Zissu





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Dress available at Vice Versa

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Photography by Mariza Garcia

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Palapas—those much-coveted bastions of shade that dot Aruba's beaches are as much a part of beaching it on Aruba as sunglasses and sunscreen. Local blogger and photographer Mariza Garcia assigned herself a yearlong project centered on one palapa that caught her eye.

"It was an idea that came to me while riding past this one palapa at Malmok Beach every day. Each day there was a new and different life under this palapa—people from all reaches of the globe, parties, families, lovers, loners, quiet contemplation and meditation, snorkelers and scuba divers, windsurfers and bikers...each day, the palapa stood stoic, romantic, timeless—except the one day of the year it fell! The following day it was propped up again. Life goes on," shares Mariza.

Mariza's photo essay spans the full 365 days of 2014; here a collection of 52, one from each week of 2014. You can follow her at <https://marizaenaruba.wordpress.com/>, where there is a video short with all 365 pictures.

One of Mariza's favorite quotes about the beach: "At the beach, life is different. Time doesn't move hour to hour, but mood to moment. We live by the currents, plan by the tides, and follow the sun."

Sandy Gringas, author 





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Salty Women!



Living and loving the kiting lifestyle

Text by Tina Causey-Bislick
Photography by Steve Keith
and Tina Causey-Bislick

When I first arrived on the island some 15 years ago, I was fascinated by the colorful kites skirting the horizon as I made my then-daily power walk along Palm Beach and Fisherman's Huts. Windsurfing I was familiar with, but kitesurfing (also known as kiteboarding and kiting) was something altogether new. Actually, back then it was something rather new to Aruba, with just a small handful of men enjoying the sport. Today, kitesurfing dominates the water, and women have joined the pack.

It took me 15 years to attempt the sport—not because of the fear factor associated with a high-intensity sport in the water, but because I am a technically challenged individual with very little patience, and all those strings and gadgets, and taking the time to untangle and lay out all the lines, blow up the kite... yeah, forget it!

For several years I have played beach tennis—I enjoy

the sport, and more importantly, I forged friendships with some really cool chicks along the way. Two of my beach tennis partners are also kitesurfers, along with several other beach tennis players. Their passion for kitesurfing outweighs their passion for beach tennis, and I was always envious to hear of their tales of the kitesurfing culture that transcended the water to become a part of their lifestyle off the water as well. If you take up kitesurfing, do you just intrinsically become cool?

I decided to delve a little deeper into their world beyond the beach tennis courts, and even took a few lessons with Noortje Derksen, one of my beach tennis partners who also moonlights as a kitesurf instructor when she is not busy with her day job as a physical education teacher at a local high school on the island. She is also one of the best female kitesurfers on the island, winning several amateur competitions



EXTREME TEMPTATIONS

including placing first two years running in the long distance category at the Aruba Hi-Winds, a popular international competition event for windsurfers and kitesurfers, as well as earning the top position in long distance and freestyle in other local competitions.

First things first—this is NOT an easy sport to learn. It requires patience (did I mention I have very little?), stick-to-it-ness, and the fortitude to get back on the board after a major face-plant that has such force that it literally pulls you clean out of your bikini bottom—I know this firsthand and was assured by Noortje that it's a rite of passage (along with a good nasal cleaning). Once you program your mind and body to roll with the punches, the rewards just keep coming. After a few lessons, I finally felt the thrill of actually putting it all together—the kite, the wind, the board, the balance—and off I went gliding atop the water. It was a quickie—a few seconds of control were all I



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could manage before I plunged headfirst to enjoy the infamous face-plant/saltwater-douche combo—but oh what a feeling! Yep, I got it, and I earned the right to enjoy a little beachside chill session afterwards.

And speaking of chill sessions, aside from the thrills on the water, one of the best benefits that come along with the sport is the sense of community and friendship within the kitesurf culture. Age, profession, nationality—none of it matters. When on the beach and on the water, everyone shares the same passion. It's an unwritten code in the sport to help each other out, whether it's laying the lines, helping launch a kite, lending a pump to someone who left theirs at home, or sharing a tip or two on skills and tricks. Cold beers on the beach—or, if you're down on the southern end of the island at Boca Grandi, a few beers and some boiled peanuts at one of the local rum shops in San Nicolas, followed by a shrimp fest at Zeerovers in Savaneta—come with the territory.

Four of my favorite divas on the water shared their thoughts on kitesurfing:

Noortje Derksen

Profession: Physical education teacher

When did you begin kitesurfing? About six years ago. I never lived close to the water in Holland—soccer was my favorite sport—so until I moved to the island seven and a half years ago, I didn't know anything about the sport. After about a year of taking lessons every other week, I bought my first kite and that was the moment I was hooked!

What is it about kitesurfing that makes it special to you? In addition to it being a great workout, it's the social aspect—people of all ages and backgrounds coming together to enjoy the sport and talking about our sessions on the water over cold beers.

Describe your perfect day of kitesurfing: Waking up, filling a cooler with lunch and drinks, and enjoying my first cup of coffee with hot milk on the beach while my mind and body slowly come to life. The water is flat, the wind is at a steady 22 knots with no gusts, and then a session of long distance!



Yvette Tromp

Profession: Concierge and wedding planner at Playa Linda Beach Resort

When did you begin kitesurfing? I was introduced to watersports at VELA Windsurfing Center upon my arrival on the island 15 years ago and have been in love with the ocean and its activities ever since. Any kind of sport involving saltwater—sign me up! I windsurfed for six years after work and weekends; then I picked up kitesurfing and have been at it for the past seven years.

What initially attracted you to the sport? The airtime in kiting versus windsurfing (where I did not have much airtime). The sport gives me a feeling of freedom and my adrenaline fix when I need it—I love the feeling of the wind in my face!

Besides the thrill of the sport, what makes it special for you? It's the whole vibe around it—the people, being on the beach, being active, and getting wet and salty! It's a great way to stay in shape, too. I love planning my vacations around windy places.

Describe your perfect day of kitesurfing: Start the morning with a cup of coffee, throw on an XL hoody over my bikini, and make a breakfast sandwich that I can munch on while I pick up a buddy, driving with the windows wide open with the wind in my hair, nice and easy...Boca (Grandi), here we come! First things first: check out the wind and wave conditions. It's still dark and a bit chilly...brrrr. "Really?" I ask myself. "Do I want to get in the water?" But as soon as I'm on my board, the sun is rising, and it slowly gets lighter, I am so happy to be right where I am at this magical moment of the day!



Image by Hubert de Cuba



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Denise Krosendijk-Pechacek

Profession: Corporate account manager at Aruba Bank

When did you begin kitesurfing? I was born and raised on Aruba, and I was always active with dancing and sports like tennis and windsurfing. I went to study abroad, and when I completed my degree and came back to the island, I saw people kiting and began taking lessons right away. I started with a group of girls—all supporting each other and going as a group to Boca (Grandi). Back then we pretty much had Boca to ourselves. I have been at it since 2006.

What attracted you to the sport? Kitesurfing is a time to get away from my hectic life and de-stress... to be able to lose myself and fly, push myself outside my comfort zone.

Besides the thrill of the sport, what makes it special for you? It's the experience as a whole. The sport attracts people from all over the place, and it's nice to meet new people and share moments, and even travel to other places in a group to kitesurf. During the week I am a business executive handling financial problems, but on the weekend I am the beach girl who just wants to surf and chill with friends...it gives my life balance. And I met my husband through the kitesurf community!

Words of wisdom for those thinking of learning the sport: Kitesurfing is a sport anyone can learn. You just need to get over the initial fear; after that, it's only about fun. It's also a good workout for the abs and legs, and you are having so much fun while doing it!



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Maartje Dolfing

Profession: Store manager for Starbucks at Paseo Herencia

When did you begin kitesurfing? I have lived on the island for three years now. I came here for a wonderful and handsome man who was worth the move from Holland. I initially started with windsurfing, but about a year and a half ago I switched to kitesurfing, and I have not been on a windsurf board since! For me, kiting is relaxing, and I can make a session as hard and challenging as I want.

You participate in many sports; what makes kitesurfing your favorite activity? It's an escape for me to have a day away on another part of the island. On the water I have songs in my head, and sometimes I find myself singing out loud at the top of my lungs. I try to find a

way to enjoy the ride even if the conditions are not perfect. When I come off the water, I feel light-headed and ultra-relaxed...it's a natural high!

What is it about the kitesurf culture that you value the most? I like that no one really talks about work. It does not matter what your position is because there is no elite; everyone is there with the same goal no matter their age, nationality, or profession.

Words of wisdom for those thinking of learning the sport: If you want to try kiting, please take lessons first—it's not safe for you or others around you if you attempt the sport without proper instruction. Within a few lessons you will learn how it all works...then just enjoy the ride! 🏄‍♀️



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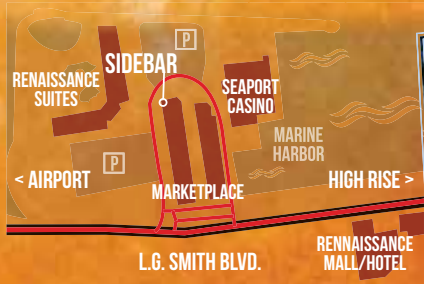
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Text by Taylor Escobedo
Photography by Steve Keith

Have Fork, Will Explore

Viva Mexico, Viva Italia



My taste buds yearn to travel. When living on a tiny island, it is easy to find yourself eating the same local dishes. My taste buds get island fever and demand I take them on a trip. However, with my late-night schedule, there are very few options available. Thankfully I don't need a passport or a plane ticket to have some of the best foods Italy and Mexico have to offer—they came to me here on Aruba.

All the way from Juarez, Mexico, is El Mexicano, specializing in Northern Mexican cuisine. Ruben Luna and his son Ruben Jr. opened the food truck together in 2009. Over the years it has become a late-night mainstay for locals and myself as an alternative to the typical

Aruban-style food trucks. This family-operated truck specializes in burritos, a staple in Northern Mexico. It also serves overstuffed tacos, quesadillas, and loaded nachos that would satisfy the biggest of appetites. Strategically lined up in a row in front of truck patrons and easily accessible to the cooks are homemade sauces displayed in authentic lava-rock mortars. These salsa recipes have been a part of the Luna family for years and are all made from scratch. Varieties include cilantro, habanero, jalapeño, and chili. The jalapeño sauce is my personal favorite and will have you yelling “ARRIBA” after just one bite! Ruben was a chef in Mexico but soon realized there



were not many opportunities for him there. When a friend suggested he take his recipes from Juarez and open his own place, Ruben looked to Aruba and introduced his Mexican soul food five years ago. El Mexicano is open seven days a week from 9 pm to 4 am in a convenient location off Palm Beach Road.

Next stop, Eataly—a food truck bringing the best of authentic Italian street food to Aruba. Eataly has been open less than a year but has earned a devout following of locals and tourists alike, serving traditional Italian dishes including lasagna and cannelloni made with homemade pasta and sauces passed down from the owner’s family, along with panini that transport your taste buds to the streets of Milan and back.

Owner Davide Bugatti moved to Aruba from Lake Como, just north of Milan. Davide was working as the national director of a German multinational company developing a new system of 3D online shopping. But it is a small world after all: Davide met his girlfriend, Laura, and moved to Aruba to start a family and bring his taste of authentic Italian



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Eataly's signature Porkermony is made with authentic Italian porchetta, marinated peppers, and roasted onions on ciabatta, and a definite go-to for carnivores is the Meat Latin Love Panino, layered with porchetta, Italian sausage, wild boar salami, and jerky fillet pork. Eataly also offers an assortment of burgers made with an Italian flair; the Caprese Angus Beef Burger with fresh mozzarella never lets me down. Last but not least are its homemade pizzas, made fresh to order. Eataly is located in the parking lot of Eagle Bowling, near Pizza Hut, and is open nightly from 8 pm to 2 am.

From Northern Mexico and the streets of Italy, these two trucks are great additions to Aruba's popular food truck scene. Not only do I enjoy the food these trucks have to offer, but I can also appreciate the leap of faith each of the owners took coming here to bring their native foods to Aruba, creating something new for others to enjoy. ¶





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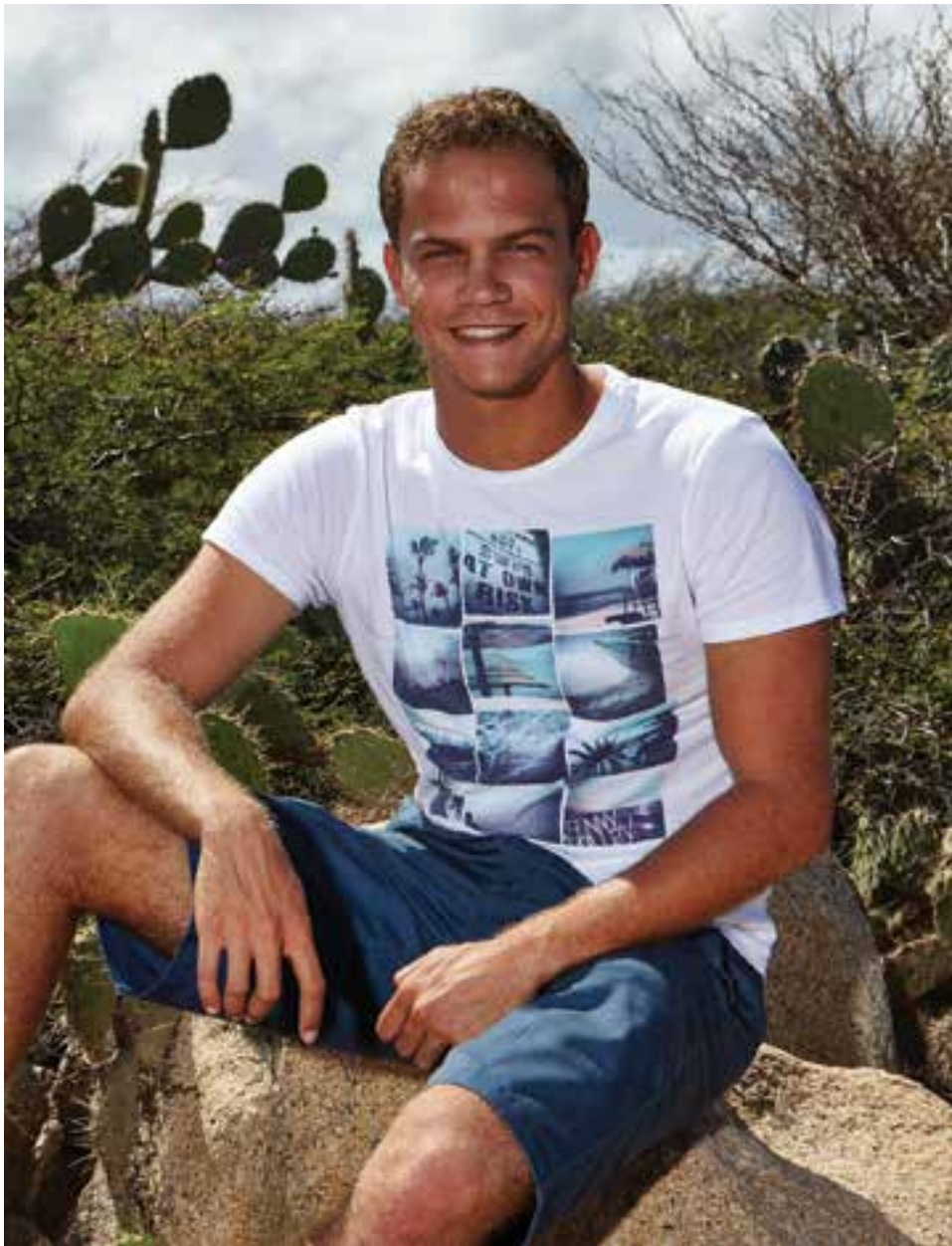
WHERE NATURE Meets Art

Text by Debbie Kunder
Photography by Steve Keith

Ever since he was small, 25-year-old Armando Goedgedrag has had an affinity for nature. He and his two brothers grew up playing in the Aruban *mondi* (countryside) and the sea. But it wasn't until Armando left Aruba to study communications and multimedia design in Holland that this affinity for nature morphed into a full-blown passion. Armando found Holland to be too stark, flat, and overly man-made. During summer breaks, he returned to Aruba and realized just how special and pure Aruba's nature truly is. So after earning

his bachelor's, followed by a master's degree in animation, Armando came back to Aruba in 2013 to draw from its unlimited source of inspiration.

What does Armando find particularly inspiring? For starters, the water. Known as the "Waterman," Armando has been body boarding since the age of 13 and swam competitively for nine years, so he is extremely comfortable in the water, enabling him to easily seduce the waves with his camera. Armando is also enchanted by the island's wild, relatively untouched landscapes, as well as



Aruba's unique flora and fauna, including local birds such as the burrowing owl (shoco), the parakeet (prikichi), and the troupial, and the sea turtles that make their nests on Aruba's beaches. As an all-around artist, he captures it all through photography, film, and painting.

It's undeniable that Armando creates beautiful art, but it's more than just that. Through much of his work, he strives to make people aware of the natural treasures around them on Aruba, and furthermore, that these treasures are at risk of vanishing if we don't protect them. His work involving the shoco is especially remarkable. In 2011, the Aruba Birdlife Conservation spearheaded an awareness campaign to rescue the shoco from extinction. Inspired by local bird expert Greg Peterson, Armando lent his artistic

talents to the campaign, including a painting of two shocos that he presented to Aruba's minister plenipotentiary in February 2012 along with a request for assistance from the Aruban government to protect the bird from extinction. Armando's artistic contributions undoubtedly played a role in the Aruban parliament's decision in September 2014 to declare the shoco a national symbol of Aruba as well as protect the shoco and its habitat by law.

The painting of the two shocos is just one of several paintings that have been featured in Armando's signature speed painting videos. Each film documents Armando's progress on a painting, usually of an endangered species in Aruba, in fast-forward. Always in favor of collaborating with other artists, Armando uses

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the music of popular local band Datapanik for some of the videos. Available for viewing on YouTube, Facebook, and Vimeo, the videos have certainly struck a chord with Armando's followers. They are truly awesome, the animals coming alive on canvas to the music and the strokes of Armando's hand.

Given the exceptional realism of his paintings, it's pretty amazing that Armando is 90% self-taught as a painter. He had originally wanted to study drawing and painting after high school, but was turned down by the art academy he applied to. This rejection only fueled his desire to excel in painting. It certainly helps that Armando has great faith in his own talent, admitting that this strong faith is the most valuable thing he has. It's also justified, considering that luminaries such as the former prime minister of the Netherlands, Jan Peter Balkenende, and the first Dutch astronaut, Wubbo Ockels, own his work.

As a cool, young chap himself, Armando is perfectly poised to have a positive effect on Aruba's youngsters. When working with local youths, Armando tries to convey to them that if they have a talent, they should use it, and that this talent is limitless. In general, he encourages them to take their noses out of their phones, look around, and discover the incredible natural wonders of Aruba. Currently, Armando is focused on meeting the demand for commissioned paintings, creating logos, and selling his photography. In December 2014, he landed a big gig at the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino, where his films are being featured in the lobby on a media wall comprised of nine screens. Looking ahead, he plans to schedule more solo exhibitions, especially in the U.S. He also has plans to start his own business, Artmando Multimedia, specializing in multimedia and painting.

Our advice? Keep an eye on this talented Aruban. Armando doesn't just love playing in the waves; he's also making waves with his work, especially in the realm of nature conservation. And despite his growing popularity, he's as humble as they come, working purely from his heart out of love for his country's natural treasures, so that others, including future generations, can enjoy them as much as he does.

To see more of Armando's work, visit his online portfolio at www.agportfolio.nl.  



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So, what's it like living in Aruba?

That's the question the guy across from me asks. I'm sitting in a bar in Las Vegas. It's happy hour on a Friday, and I'm with six of my new staff members. I've been back in the States for exactly 21 days after spending the last four years running a hotel on the island. All of my furniture and most of my belongings are still sitting at the port, which completely shuts down during the holidays. Even Gus, my dog, is still in Aruba.

Everyone at the table stops their individual conversation and looks at me to respond.

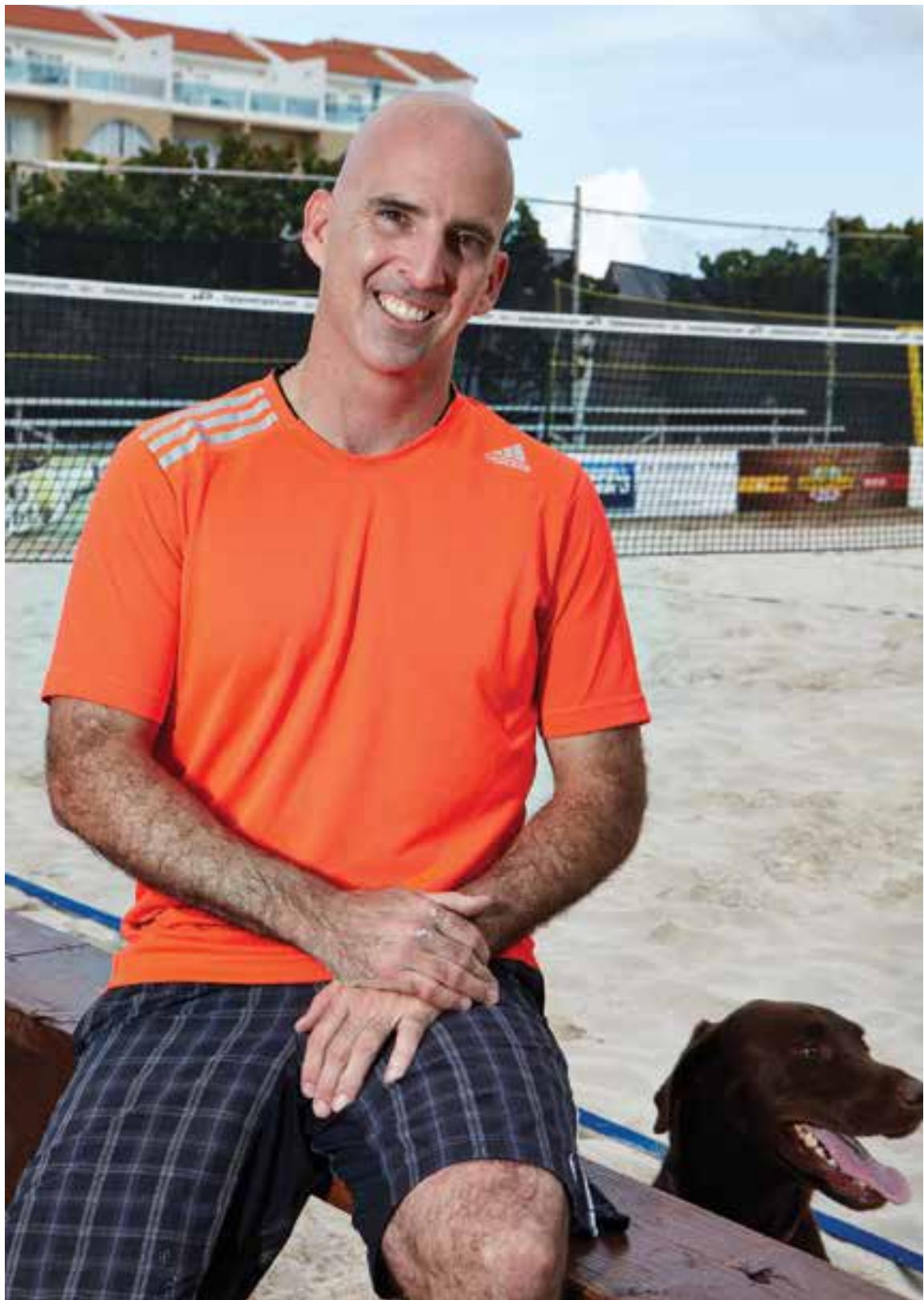
I know what they want to hear. I've had this conversation a thousand times before on airplanes, with friends and family, or anyone who happens to learn that I was living on an island. They want me to tell them about the white sand beaches, warm breezes, and clear blue waters.

I look down at my beer and wish I was drinking an Amstel Bright. How do you describe what it's like living in Aruba? Where do you even begin?

I could tell them how safe the island is. How our children would play together relatively unsupervised and how we all looked after each other. I didn't worry about always locking my doors or shredding my trash. Sure, there were occasionally crimes of property, but my zip code in Las Vegas has over 300 registered sex offenders.

The fireworks in Las Vegas are nothing like the ones in Aruba. On New Year's Eve, the Arubans go batshit crazy and the whole island seems to erupt. There are explosions everywhere. They don't need choreographed shows set to music. During the day, they light strings of firecrackers called "pagaras"—I've seen them as long as two million firecrackers. I don't necessarily believe they drive the "fuku" (evil spirits) away as intended, but they certainly scare the crap out of Gus.

I could talk about Carnival. They might be interested in the two-month drink fest, nighttime



parades, and costumes, or how the government declared a holiday because it rained one time during the children's parade. I could tell them how I "jumped" in the Carnival once and my feet hurt for a week and my bald head was burned to a crisp and even though I drank about 50 beers, I didn't feel drunk because I was so dehydrated and worn out from dancing.

Maybe they want to hear about the animals. There were the tiny lizards that would surprise me in my apartment or office, but those things are cute compared to the foot-long rat that showed up at my dinner party and tap danced along the ceiling rafters. The frogs sing at night, and iguana soup tastes like chicken, but it's illegal to eat iguanas. One time, I hired an "iguana wrangler" to remove them from the hotel grounds, and he promised me that he was taking the ones he caught to the other side of the island to live out their days. The gentle look on his face reminded me of the lie I told my daughter when a car hit her cat—"he's going to live on a farm now." Or there are the giant ants that crawl out of the sand and sprout wings when it rains and flock to your porch light.

I could describe the unbelievable patriotism the Arubans demonstrate. Flag Day rocks. Everyone is decked out in the colors of the flag, specialty T-shirts abound, and it is a party. During the government elections, "discussions" become so passionately heated that it's illegal to sell alcohol to locals those days.

I could tell them about playing dominoes and drinking beers for hours, and how whenever someone forgets it's their turn and asks, "Is it me?" someone inevitably responds, "It's always been you." The Arubans play very well, and there are a couple of Dutch guys named Pim and Geert who can hold their own.

I could try to describe what the word "gezelligheid" means. I would tell them that you can't translate the feeling directly into English, but you know it when it's happening. If they wanted to know about the Dutch, I could stumble along describing Sinterklaas and his "helpers" or tell them that Holland and the Netherlands are not the same thing. I could try to explain how direct the Dutch are by telling a joke:

Dutch wife: Do you like the red dress or the blue dress better?

Dutch husband: You're fat.

I could tell them that I was the best American field hockey player on the island...and the worst. We played every Thursday and afterwards drank beers and told stories. When the team went to Barbados, a monkey came on the pitch and stole our ball. Every year the team had a Christmas dinner, and no one in the world makes a better spinach soup than a blue-eyed man named Jan Hein.

Would they want to hear about the labor laws, the ridiculous A.O. (sickness rules), or the outrageous taxes? I could talk for hours about that.

I could also talk about beach tennis for hours. I could tell them I had about 300 friends of all different ages and backgrounds who regularly fought on the court and then drank beers and laughed together. Every year there is an international tournament, and the best players from around the world show up. My partner and friend was Captain Ron. He's Colombian and on the surface we had nothing in common, but I love that little brown man, and we won our last tournament together. If you stop by the club, a guy named Hylco will give you a cold



beer, and there is another man there who has a sour face, a terrible temper, and a big heart.

I could tell them about the newspaper guy who sells papers in the middle of the busiest road in town. He stalls traffic every day and delays hundreds of people on their daily commutes. He has a big, goofy, toothy smile, and you love him and want to punch him every time you see him stopping traffic.

I could describe J.J. Snack, Zeerovers, and a place called the Caribbean Store. You can find politicians, taxi drivers, business owners, Dutch interns, and housekeepers all rubbing elbows together at these types of places. Surprisingly, J.J. Snack makes a mean burger, and if you go to Zeerovers, make sure you get the peel-and-eat shrimp.

On your birthday, you treat everyone else. It's not hard. Just get a paper plate and give everyone a tiny tuna sandwich, a "pastechi," a deviled egg, a "kroket," and a "bitterbal," and they'll be happy. If you're lucky, you'll get tres leche cake. I would kill for one of those little plates right now.

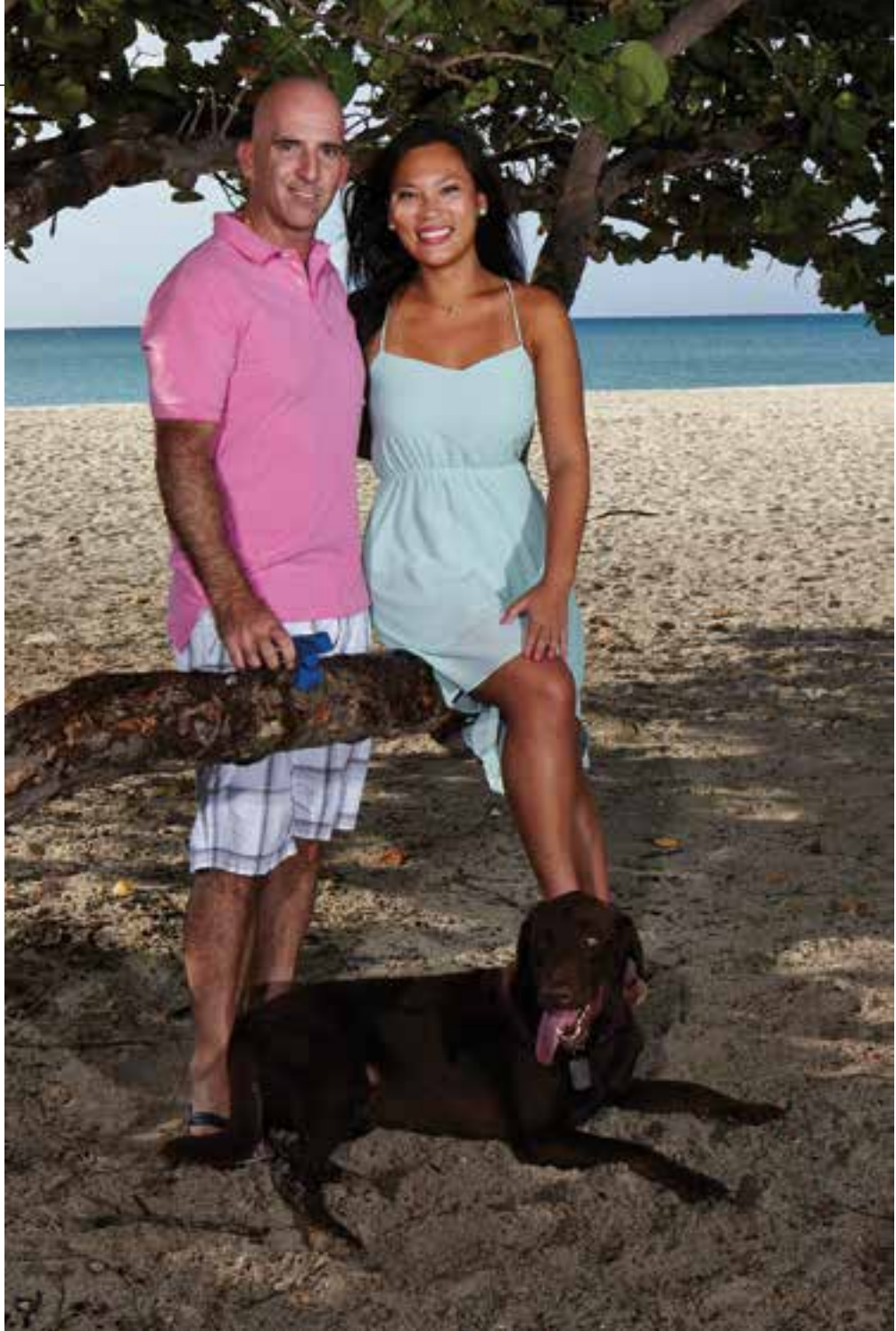
On one of the local television stations, channel 15, you'll find a Chinese girl who was born in the Netherlands, raised in Canada, lives in Aruba, and now does the English news. Her nose crinkles when she laughs, and I'm still in love with her.

There is no black or white in Aruba. There is light skin or dark skin, and it isn't the first thing you see or what defines a person's character. Not a lot of attention is paid to what people drive, where they live, or what type of clothes they wear. You don't have to be skinny to be beautiful. You definitely don't ask someone where he or she works in the first five minutes after you meet. If you go to the Dutch-owned places called Bingo or Que Pasa to eat, try the special of the day. Sit at the bar and the owner may serve you. The service is so good, the next time you show up, they'll remember your name.

I could tell them how two passing cars may stop in the middle of the road for a conversation. It's rude to honk, but if you do, you only lightly tap the horn. The same may happen in the grocery store with passing carts.

I could joke that if you get in line at the McDonald's drive-thru at 9 am, you better have a full tank of gas, and by the time you get to the window, they may not be serving breakfast anymore. The service at Wendy's is better, and you'll laugh out loud when you see their commercials during the movie trailers.

I could tell them about how gracious the Aruban



people are. How quick they are to smile, that they all speak multiple languages, and how they will openly talk about their diarrhea or whatever might be on their minds. On Thanksgiving or Fourth of July, they genuinely wish their American friends good tidings. When they ask, "How are you doing?" they really care and listen while you speak. Their handshakes, kisses, and hugs are plentiful. They love to celebrate, dance, laugh, and make jokes. If you accept them, they'll accept you. If you treat them with respect and kindness, you'll have friends for life.

I could tell them that I wish I was in Aruba right

now. It's Friday night. I would probably be heading to Que Pasa or playing dominoes or at the beach tennis courts. I would be drinking an Amstel Bright with my girl or laughing with my friends, and Gus would probably be a leash away. I could tell them that I'm 3,000 miles away, but Aruba is on my mind all the time. Instead, I look up from my beer and smile.

What's it like living in Aruba? It's beautiful—there are white sand beaches, warm breezes, and clear blue waters. You should check it out. You would love it. 🍹

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ISLA BONITA RESIDENCES

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Text by Debbie Kunder
Photography by Steve Keith




W

hile most condominium projects on the island don't offer energy efficiency, Isla Bonita Residences were conceived to do just that. Located in Bubali, this eco-condo complex is outfitted with green features, including LED lights, inverter air conditioners, and even water recollection, in order to reduce the utility costs of owners and guests by half.

In addition to saving on energy, residents and guests can enjoy the complex's personal, boutique feel. Condominiums come in three types—3 bed/2 bath, 2 bed/2 bath, and 1 bed/1 bath—each one offering high-end touches and equipped with an Italian kitchen, living/dining space, terrace, and laundry room/nook. Complex amenities include adult pool, kids pool, areas for sunbathing, grill space, lounge, jogging track, green areas, playground, squares, and gym.

The first phase of this sustainable development project, which includes 15 units, has been completed. The second phase, comprised of 20 units, is slated to be finished in July 2015. The developers are longtime residents of Aruba with an excellent track record; they already developed a successful condo complex, Sunset Residences, and are also working on a spectacular eco-friendly resort.

Isla Bonita Residences also offers a rental program for island guests looking to make the beautiful condo complex their home away from home while on vacation. For more information, visit www.arubaislabonita.com. 



Aruba's New Dog Law takes power in 2015

A highly anticipated new law regarding dog ownership took effect on Aruba this year. Aimed at creating more responsible dog owners, the new law requires owners to take safe and acceptable measures to ensure their dog stays on their terrain, use a leash when walking their dog in public spaces, and provide their dog with adequate care, including veterinary attention when necessary. The law also requires owners of dangerous dogs to obtain a permit and makes dog fighting illegal.

The law was unanimously approved by Parliament in 2012, but before the law could be put into power, the government required an awareness campaign to inform dog owners about how to comply with the new law. This campaign was launched in 2014 by Plataforma Ley di Cacho, a group of dedicated volunteers representing the government, NGOs, and the private sector. The success of the campaign prompted the minister of justice to officially put the law into power on January 1, 2015, making it enforceable by police with fining.

It is estimated that eight out of ten dogs roaming the streets of Aruba are actually owned, so by requiring owners to keep their dog on their property, this new law should go a long way in helping to bring down the street dog population and alleviating the many problems associated with it. Plataforma Ley di Cacho also promotes responsible dog ownership by encouraging dog owners to spay/neuter, practice preventative health care, make their dog identifiable with a tag and/or chip, and only have as many dogs as they can own responsibly.

For more information about the new dog law, visit www.plataformaleydicacho.org or the Plataforma's Facebook page.



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THURSDAY
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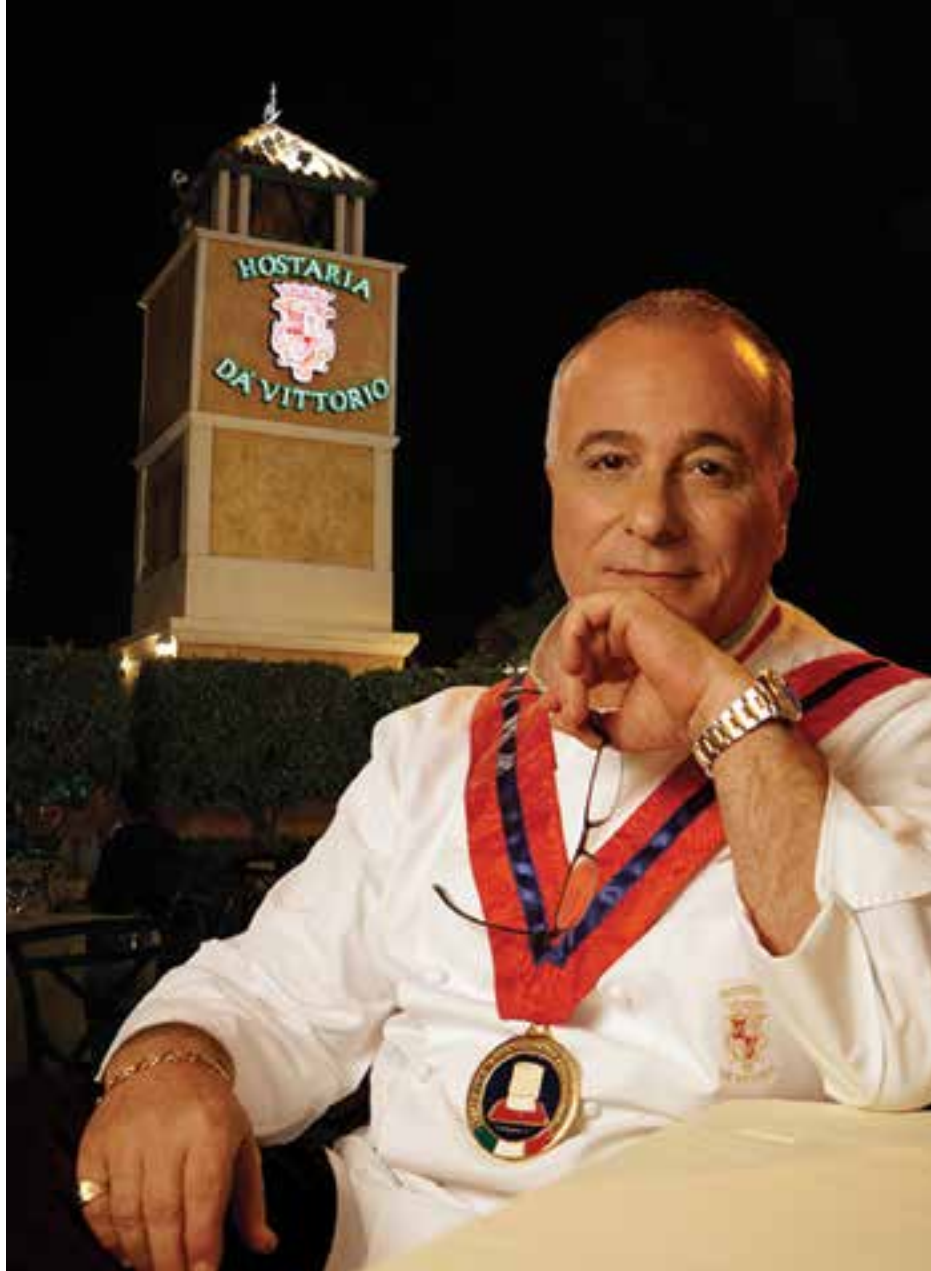
A taste of Asia... More flavors, more options, more variety with our All-You-Can-Eat Asian Buffet!

Vittorio receives the Ospitalita Italiana award

Master chef Vittorio Muscariello of Hostaria Da Vittorio received a bronze plaque in January attesting to the fact that the Chamber of Commerce of Italy and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Ministry of Tourism, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Alimentation, and Forests have recognized his commitment to everything genuinely Italian, especially his famous cuisine. They also made him the recipient of a special award, which names him the “Italian International Ambassador of Taste and Culture.”

The award program was created by the government of Italy for the purpose of rewarding Italian restaurants outside the country for complying with ten difficult standards of excellence. The project “Italian Hospitality, Italian Restaurants in the World” ensures global compliance with quality typical of Italian hospitality, protecting the history, culture, and most importantly the authenticity of the Italian kitchen.

In order to qualify for the award and be recognized by “Italian Hospitality, Italian Restaurants of the World,” a restaurant must uphold a distinct Italian identity, using traditional Italian elements for décor and communicating to clients about the type of regional Italian cuisine and the presence of an Italian chef; the reception must have at least one person who can relate to customers in Italian; the plates and dishes must be of upscale quality; flowers, candles, and ornaments must be on the tables; the kitchen must be in full view of customers; the menu must be written in Italian; the menu must offer cheese and sausage of Italian origin and feature specific Italian products including Italian espresso; the wine list must contain branded, recognized Italian wines with an emphasis on PDO, Protected Designation of Origin; the restaurant must use extra-virgin olive oil of Italian origin for its dressings and in dish preparation; and last but not least, the chef





must be qualified for the preparation of Italian food having undergone training in Italy.

Italian cuisine, Vittorio explains, is a result of how the Italian society ate, entertained, and lived for many centuries. This unique quality of life is protected by Ospitalita Italiana because food, just like paintings and music, is a form of art, and it should be protected against adulterations and falsifications to preserve its history, quality, culture, and authenticity.

Hostaria da Vittorio was visited by an anonymous inspector who verified all requirements.

Following the visit, Hostaria da Vittorio joined the select few hundred Ospitalita Italiana-certified restaurants around the globe.

Hostaria da Vittorio is committed to serving Protected Designation of Origin products, specific wines, cheeses, hams, sausages, seafood, olives, olive oils, beers, balsamic vinegar, and even regional breads, fruits, raw meats, and vegetables, no substitutions accepted. Everything in the kitchen has to be the real McCoy, the branded Italian product.

Boardwalk Small Hotel features talented local artists



Aruba's award-winning boutique hotel, Boardwalk Small Hotel, commissioned three renowned local artists, Elisa Lejuez, Nigel Matthew, and Fernando Vermeer, to create unique pieces of art for each of the property's casitas. The artists drew their inspiration from the rich history of Boardwalk's location, namely, the coconut plantation. The artworks contribute to the island's rich heritage and showcase local talent. Claudia Vasquez, Boardwalk's designer, led the art project and made sure the artwork seamlessly integrated with Boardwalk's overall design concept.

This is the latest project undertaken by dynamic twin sisters Stephanie and Kimberly Rooijackers, who bought the property a few years after falling in love with it during a kiteboarding vacation in Aruba. Boardwalk Small Hotel has just been recognized among the top 25 hotels for service in the Caribbean by TripAdvisor, earning one of its prestigious Travelers' Choice awards. Boardwalk has also been awarded a Certificate of Excellence by the travel site.





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Automated Passport Control kiosks introduced at Queen Beatrix International Airport

The Aruba Airport Authority N.V., in its mission to continuously seek ways to improve passenger experience at the Queen Beatrix International Airport, recently purchased Automated Passport Control (APC) kiosks for the U.S. pre-clearance facility.

Provided by Vancouver Airport Authority, the BorderXpress APC kiosks will dramatically improve the customs clearance process for U.S.-bound passengers. Aruba's Queen Beatrix International Airport is the first Caribbean airport to implement these time-saving kiosks. The automated system is available to U.S. passport holders, U.S. Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR), and all Canadian passport holders. The kiosks will also recognize registration of all passengers who are from the 38 countries that do not require a U.S. Entry Visa (including Australia, Japan, Germany, the Netherlands, and England) and who have a Visa Waiver completed with ESTA.



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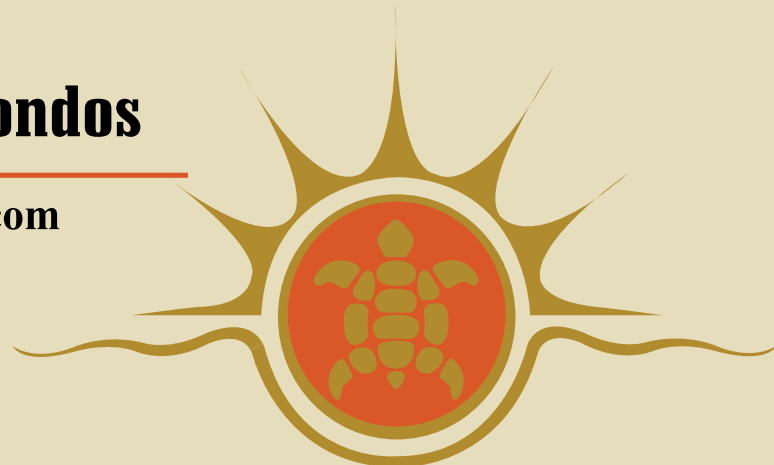
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Sidebar Bistro opens at Renaissance Marketplace

Specializing in burgers and bourbon, one of the newest entries to Aruba's culinary scene is Sidebar Bistro, located at Renaissance Marketplace. Opening this past December, this chic yet casual bistro offers a selection of gourmet burgers made with 100% Angus beef, as well as fresh salads, soups, wraps, and sandwiches.

A well-thought-out bar menu features a vast selection of bourbons, signature bourbon cocktails, six beers on tap, and an ample wine list.



Fusion Wine Bar & Hollywood Smokehouse rock Alhambra Shops & Casino

Fusion Wine Bar specializes in local live music every night. Recently the wine bar and neighboring Hollywood Smokehouse joined forces to bring new energy to Thursday evenings from 8 pm to 11 pm with their Rock 'n' Blues Night, featuring Mojambo, a band composed of both locals and Americans playing classic rock and blues tunes. Guests enjoying the vibe from Fusion's al fresco patio can sip on wine and munch on tapas while those on Hollywood Smokehouse's patio can pair the rock and blues with low-and-slow barbecue and signature craft cocktails, like the Bourbonwood (fresh squeezed blackberry lemonade and bourbon).



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Coconuts by De Palm extends its popular **Biba Dushi** line

De Palm Tours launched a line of T-shirts with the slogan “Biba Dushi” in its Coconuts retail shops two years ago, and has recently added an extensive collection of shirts, sweatshirts, flip-flops, hats, beach bags, hoodies, and more to cater to the growing demand for the line. “Biba Dushi” (meaning “live sweetly” or “good life”) represents the island lifestyle embraced by locals here, and taking home the line’s clothing and merchandise is a reminder to take time to smell the roses, or live sweetly, back home as well.



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All-you-care-to-eat options offered at Hyatt's **Mexicado** and **Ruinias del Mar**

One of Aruba's most intriguing and memorable dining ambiances can be found at Hyatt Regency Aruba's Ruinas del Mar and neighboring Mexicado. Currently, both restaurants are offering all-you-care-to-eat dinner options.

On Wednesday evenings from 6 pm to 10 pm, Ruinas del Mar hosts Pasta Night with a boundless selection of pasta dishes and a salad bar for \$32 per person. Enjoy live entertainment as well. On Friday evenings, also from 6 pm to 10 pm, Mexicado tempts diners with Fajita Night. For \$29, have your fill of chicken and beef fajitas while sipping on a complimentary margarita.



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Divi's Pure Beach launches new menu

Located at Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort, Pure Beach is a casual all-day dining café and bar with European beach club aesthetics. Encircled by the waters of the free-form resort pool and bordered by the spectacular beachfront, the café is outfitted with comfortable couches for lounging along with low tables and chairs, a friendly dining room set-up, and plenty of stools at the bar, all decorated in a chic beige and white color scheme.

This January, the curtain went up on a refreshed menu featuring delicious food, artistically plated and served in generous portions. Standouts include Caribbean fish tenders served with a mango-lime dipping sauce; shrimp & seafood ceviche infused with lime and fresh herbs, served with pickled onions and peppers and a coconut cocktail sauce; Greek beef tenderloin kabob, flaunting tenderloin tips, onions, and peppers, and topped with feta cheese and Kalamata olives; tuna tataki, with sesame-crust seared ahi tuna served over a wakame seaweed salad with a teriyaki glaze and wasabi aioli; mojo chicken quesadillas; and the star of the lineup, the Kobe sliders, featuring three mini Wagyu Kobe beef burgers, topped with Gouda cheese and red-wine-caramelized onions.

Pizzas from Pure Beach's Pure Pizza menu are ideal for sharing and feature thin and crispy crusts with gourmet toppings. Guests can combine their meals in the restaurant's fun ambiance with chilled drinks, choosing from a great selection of wines and handcrafted cocktails.



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NEW ARRIVALS

Rage Silver opens third boutique at Royal Plaza Mall



Local retailers Marny and Cedric Wever proudly opened a third boutique at downtown Oranjestad's Royal Plaza Mall, adding to successful locations at Renaissance Marketplace and Palm Beach Plaza Mall. The new Rage Silver carries in-demand lines including Ti Sento Milano, Melinda Maria, Chamilia, Guess Jewelry, Vince Camuto Watches, the must-have UNO de 50, Crislu, Guess Eyewear, and GIGI New York Handbags/Clutches. A wide selection of silver, cubic zirconium, and stainless-steel pieces is also in the mix.

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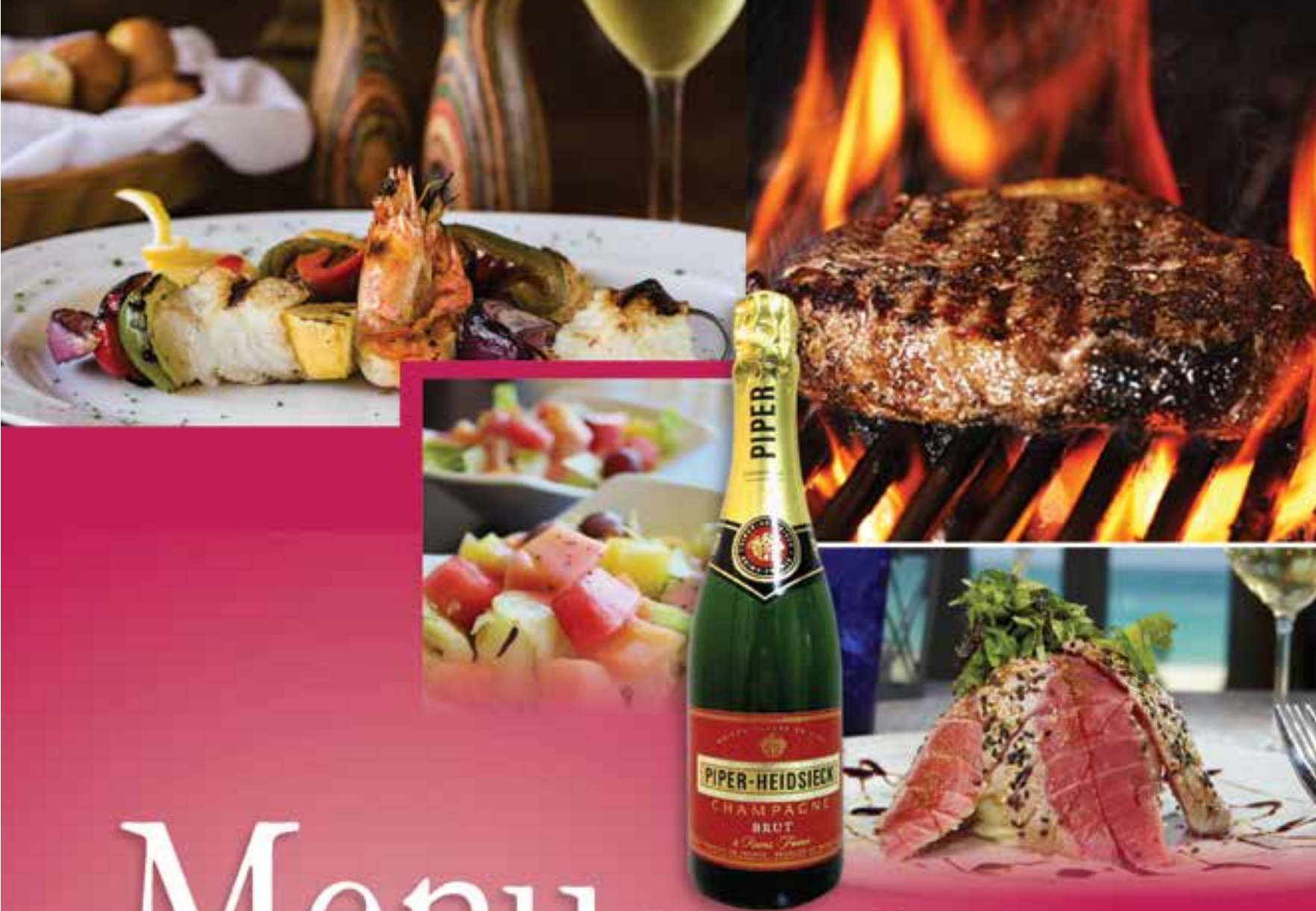
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Menu

[EXCLUSIVE CHAMPAGNE
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temptations

RESTAURANT GUIDE

On the following pages, a selection
of our favorite restaurants & menus

Menu Temptations

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Mexicado is an intimate, friendly dining experience environment featuring a selection of regional dishes showcasing Mexico's most inspiring flavors. The truly authentic restaurant offers an array of elevated market food items, an extensive tequila selection and a list of handcrafted tequila cocktails. Outdoor lounge, tequila bar and restaurant seating available.

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DORADO TACOS Seared mahi mahi, chipotle mayonnaise, guacamole, iceberg, corn tortillas.....	\$14.00
FRESH PICO DE GALLO Tomatoes, onions, cilantro.....	\$5.00
COLIMA CEVICHE Grouper with lemon juice, red onion, tomatoes, cilantro, serrano chili.....	\$15.00
CHICKEN TORTILLA SOUP Shredded chicken, corn tortilla, avocado, onion, tomatoes, chipotle, chili, oregano, cilantro.....	\$9.00

Main Attractions

CASUELA DE MARISCOS Half lobster, shrimp, scallops, clams, grouper with chipotle tomato sauce, sweet peppers, onions, cilantro.....	\$48.00
CASUELA PORK AL PASTOR Slow braised pork, tomato, onion, chili, yucatan potatoes, salsa verde, sliced avocado.....	\$31.00
TRADITIONAL FAJITAS Poblano chile, cilantro, onion, peppers, pico de gallo, flour tortilla, avocado	
FILET MIGNON Chipotle tomato sauce, sautéed onion with cilantro, tomatoes, potatoes and plantain.....	\$38.00

Desserts

PASTEL TRES LECHES Sponge cake soaked with sweetened milk.....	\$10.00
BIEN CASADO Nice orange rum cookies filled with rich dulce de leche.....	\$10.00

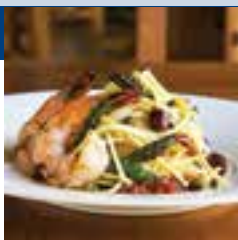
and much more...

Prices are in US\$, excluding 15% service charge as well as sales/health tax.

Dining Information

HOURS
Dinner daily except Mondays, 6pm-10:30pm

RESERVATIONS
Please call the Hyatt Regency +297-586-1234 Ext 36
www.hyattregencyaruba.com



FOOTPRINTS BEACH GRILL



Celebrate another perfect day in paradise with an unforgettable dinner at Footprints. This exclusive restaurant—only a limited number tables are available each evening—offers fine dining while you wiggle your toes in the soft white sand. Enjoy the sounds of the sea as the attentive staff serves a delicious 4-course dinner, featuring their renowned grilled entrees with your choice of beef, fish, fresh seafood and more. Finish a delightful evening with a tempting dessert and your favorite cocktail or wine from the hotel's extensive selection.

Start your meal off with...

First Steps

BEEF PINCHOS WITH CHIMICHURI	\$18.00
GRILLED PRAWNS, ROASTED CASHEW, MANGO CILANTRO COULIS	\$21.00
PERUVIAN CEVICHE SERVED WITH PATACON	\$18.00

Second Step

MIXED GREENS, CUCUMBER, AVOCADO, HEARTS OF PALM, TOMATO, BALSAMIC VINAIGRETTE	\$17.00
ARUBAN FISH CHOWDER WITH CRISP ONIONS	\$10.00
CAESAR SALAD WITH BACON, PARMESAN AND CIABATA CROUTONS	\$19.00

Entrees

BLACKENED MAHI MAHI \$26 Garlic cassava oil, Madame Jeanette papaya.....	\$26.00
SEARED GROUPE Stir-fry rice pasta, vegetables with Tamari sauce.....	\$27.00
GRILLED NEW YORK STEAK Caribbean mashed potato, stir-fry okra and peppercorn sauce.....	\$39.00
SEAFOOD PEPPER POT Shrimps, scallops, green mussels, baby clams with Aruban funchi.....	\$45.00
JAMAICAN JERK CHICKEN Sautéed Creole potato, Rosemary onions and tomatoes.....	\$25.00

Desserts

CARIBBEAN PASSION FRUIT CRÈME BRÛLÉE	\$10.00
CINNAMON COCONUT MOUSSE CAKE WITH VANILLA MERENGUE	\$10.00
DECADENT CHOCOLATE CAKE WITH BERRIES AND FRUIT COMPOTE	\$10.00

and much more...

Prices are in US\$, excluding 15% service charge as well as sales/health tax.

Dining Information

HOURS
6:30pm – 10:00pm – daily, but closed on Saturday & Sunday

RESERVATIONS
Please reserve at 011.297.586 – 1234 ext. 37
or by email: sherwin.croes@hyatt.com
www.hyattregencyaruba.com



PALMS RESTAURANT

Palms



Feel the warmth at our premier beach front location. Palms offers both the sights and tastes of the Caribbean. Drawing upon local cuisine and regional ingredients, the menu allows guests to linger long into the night over a variety of delicious dishes. Indoor and outdoor seating, as well as adjacent lounge for before and after cocktails.

Start your meal off with...

AREPAS Chicken stuffed arepa with cheese, guacamole, red peppers, and tomato relish.....	\$13.00
TRIO SEAFOOD Platter with three shrimps, crab claws, green mussels, cocktail and calypso sauces.....	\$20.00
TRADITIONAL COBB SALAD Grilled chicken, bacon, egg, avocado, blue cheese and tomatoes, lemon-Dijon dressing.....	\$17.00

Main Attractions

MEYER NATURAL ANGUS BURGER Cheddar, sliced tomato, crisp lettuce, onion with brioche bun and cilantro mayo.....	\$15.00
VEGAN WRAP Zucchini, carrot, quinoa, sweet pepper, tomato, cabbage ginger.....	\$14.00
CARIBBEAN JERK CHICKEN BREAST Crème spinach, fried ripe banana, with island rice.....	\$26.00
GRILLED CHICKEN PASTA ALFREDO Fettuccine with Alfredo sauce and Parmesan cheese.....	\$24.00
SEARED MAHI-MAHI Papaya Madame Jeanette chutney, garlic broccoli and island rice.....	\$26.00
ROASTED SALMON Sustainable salmon, sauté vegetables and garlic oil with blue cheese sauce.....	\$28.00
FILET MIGNON 8-oz grilled steak with red wine sauce Fettuccine, garlic with sauté vegetables and olive oil.....	\$39.00

and much more...

Prices are in US\$, excluding 15% service charge as well as sales/health tax.

Dining Information

HOURS: Open for lunch daily, 11:30 – 5:30 p.m.
Open for Sunday breakfast, 7:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Open for dinner daily except Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Late night menu 11:00 p.m. – 12 midnight

RESERVATIONS

Please call the Hyatt Regency +297-586-1234 Ext 37
www.hyattregencyaruba.com



RUINAS DEL MAR

RUINAS ^{del} MAR



Ruins by the Sea, is Hyatt Regency Aruba's signature restaurant offering contemporary cuisine in an open air environment. Guests are invited to enjoy menu items such as fresh seafood and steaks, hearth oven specialties, and a display of multiple food stations offering breakfast, Sunday Brunch, and special events. The design of Ruinas del Mal pays homage to several original Aruban architectural elements including caliche stone and the use of water in design

Start your meal off with...

DUO LOBSTER CRAB CAKE Served with remoulade sauce.....	\$16.00
BAKED BRIE Local honey, cranberry compote, candy pecan, whole grain crackers.....	\$14.00
PEARS, CAPICOLA & PARMESAN Wine pears, asparagus, artichoke and copa ham.....	\$16.00

Main Attractions

KANSAS RIB EYE STEAK Fresh mushroom, seasoned vegetables, mashed potatoes and demi-glace.....	\$45.00
ROASTED LAMB CHOP Pumpkin and goat cheese risotto, asparagus, drizzle of amaretto served with mint sauce.....	\$40.00
CIGAR BOX CEDAR SALMON FILET Broken shrimp with spinach risotto, roasted garlic oil.....	\$38.00
CLASSIC DUO Grilled filet, cabernet sauce with Fresh caribbean lobster tail & garlic broccoli, dushi mashed potatoes and Café de Paris butter	\$52.00
SEAFOOD LINGUINI Shrimp, scallops, mussels, clams, fresh parsley, basil in original alfredo or marinara sauce, lobster 6-0z.....	\$48.00

Desserts

BOURBON SAUCE FLOAT A combination of red velvet cake and cheese cake topped with cream cheese frosting	
GLUTEN FREE CHOCOLATE CAKE Enjoy a sweet finish to your meal with flourless chocolate heaven reaching deep into the gluten free goddess. Perfectly paired with vanilla ice-cream	
APPLE CRUMBLE Fresh green apples sautéed with cinnamon, drizzled with crunchy sugar dough and garnished with Dutch stroop wafels	

and much more...

Prices are in US\$, excluding 15% service charge as well as sales/health tax.

Dining Information

HOURS

Open for breakfast daily except Sundays, 7:00 – 12noon.
Open for dinner daily except Sunday, 6:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Open Sundays for Brunch, \$43.95 p.p./ s.c. + tax, 9:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.

RESERVATIONS

Please call the Hyatt Regency +297-586-1234 Ext 36
www.hyattregencyaruba.com



Menu Temptations

IKE'S BISTRO



Enjoy a modern twist on Mediterranean cuisine, Caribbean style, with Aruba's most talented, young chef Ever De Pena, paying homage to the late resort founder, award winning hotelier Ike Cohen. With seating on the garden terrace or around the tropical pool, the restaurant overlooks the beach and the Caribbean ocean. Ike's Bistro experience is enchanting and all menu items are extremely enticing. Undecided guests may opt for the tasting menu of 4 or 5 smaller portions of the chef's seasonal specialties.

Start your meal off with...

CAPRESE AND PESTO

Buffalo mozzarella, cherry tomato, sweet tomato basil relish and home-made pesto espuma

CRAB CAKE

Lump crab cake, fresh made aioli, mixed greens, kalamata olives, feta cheese and cherry tomatoes

GREEN GAZPACHO

Cucumber & honeydew melon gazpacho, basil, organic sea salt, olive oil and herb croutons

SCALLOPS AND COCONUT FOAM

Pan-fried herb crusted scallops, avocado puree, red pepper cilantro salsa and coconut foam

Main Attractions

SHRIMP A LA BRAVA

Slightly spicy shrimp, boiled potatoes, fresh basil, creamy spicy sauce, grilled pita bread

SEA BASS

Pan seared sea bass with sautéed spinach, quinoa salad and yoghurt pomegranate salsa

LAMB

Crusted lamb chops, couscous, mint, green beans, corn and creamy pesto sauce

LAND & SEA

Grilled filet of beef & sautéed shrimp with garlic mashed potato, creamy spinach and lobster sauce

Desserts

ORANGE CATALANA

Vanilla custard flavored with orange zest topped with a thin crisp caramel layer

PASSION FRUIT PARFAIT AND BERRIES

Passion fruit parfait, wild berries, lime sauce and coconut ice cream

and much more...

All prices are in U.S. Dollars. A 15% service charge will be added to your check.

Dining Information

HOURS

Dinner: 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

RESERVATIONS

Tel: +297 582-3444 ext. 203

Email: ikesbistro@manchebo.com

www.manchebo.com



TEXAS DE BRAZIL



Texas de Brazil is an authentic Brazilian-American style steakhouse, the ultimate in continuous dining concepts. Diners are tempted by an extravagant 40-item seasonal salad area



of roasted vegetables, imported cheeses and home-made soups. Hailed for its "flawless meats" by the Dallas Morning News, carvers will then swarm your table with choice cuts of sizzling beef, pork, lamb, sausage and chicken; all flamegrilled to perfection and served tableside on large sword-like skewers. Signature Brazilian cocktails, rare wines, exquisite desserts, and hand-rolled Cuban cigars make for the most incredible dining experience that is uniquely Texas de Brazil.

Start your meal off with...

SALAD BAR

The exceptional salad bar consists of the freshest salads, home-made dressings, buffalo mozzarella, zucchini, potato salad, crab salad, daily cold pasta, black beans with pork, baby corn, cucumbers, portabella mushrooms, sweet bell peppers, green beans, broccoli, olives, hearts of palm, sushi, ceviche, salami, tomatoes, smoked bacon, brown rice, imported cheeses, daily house soups and more.

Main Attractions

MEATS

Filet mignon, filet mignon wrapped in bacon, top sirloin, leg of lamb, Brazilian sausage, Parmesan pork, chicken breast wrapped in bacon, Brazilian picanha, garlic picanha (our house specialty), flank steak, crispy chicken drum sticks, pork loin, pork ribs and beef ribs.

SIDE ITEMS

Garlic mashed potatoes, fried sweet bananas, Brazilian cheese bread and house specialty meat sauces.

Desserts

Selection of desserts ranging from delicious cakes to papaya cream, our house specialty!

and much more...

All prices are in U.S. dollars. 15% service charge plus 1.5% local tax will be added to each check. Prices and menu items are subject to change without notice.

Dining Information

HOURS

Dinner from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. nightly Monday to Saturday
Sunday 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

RESERVATIONS

Juan E. Irausquin Blvd. 382. Palm Beach

Telephone: +297-586-4686

www.texasdebrasil.com



PUREOCEAN

pureocean

BEACHSIDE DINING



Pureocean is located right on the beach at the Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort. Unwind in lazy, comfortable chairs on our white sandy beach as you watch the sun set. Inside, the décor is rustic and open-aired. Enjoy the spectacular ocean view from your table, or dine directly on the beach, savoring our chef's fusion-style cooking, featuring fresh seafood, lobster and great steaks, all at reasonable prices.

Start your meal off with...

COCONUT CURRY MUSSELS	
Steamed with fresh cilantro, light curry coconut milk.....	\$15.00
ICED SHRIMP COCKTAIL	
Lime cocktail sauce.....	\$9.50
THE WEDGE	
Wedge of iceberg, crisp bacon, diced tomatoes, blue cheese crumbles, creamy blue cheese dressing.....	\$7.00

Main Attractions

SEARED SCALLOPS	
Served over a cherry tomato, asparagus risotto.....	\$23.00
CRISPY COCONUT CURRY GROUPER	
Crispy fried grouper over a bed of jasmine rice, plantain, stir fried vegetables, finished with a mild coconut curry sauce.....	\$22.00
CARIBBEAN LOBSTER	
Broiled served with a sweet potato mash, market vegetables, drawn butter and lemon.....	Market Price
STEAK FRITES	
Grilled skirt steak, plantain and chimichurri sauce.....	\$28.50
FILET MIGNON	
USDA beef tenderloin, pan seared, blue cheese BBQ sauce.....	\$38.00
OSSO BUCO	
Bone-In Veal shank, vegetable stew, served over a squash risotto.....	\$32.00

Dessert

CRÈME BRULE	
Kaffir lime-scented Catalonian crème brulee.....	\$9.50
MINI DESSERT TRIO	
Our delicious desserts- miniaturized! Crème brulee, warm chocolate bread pudding, and mango cheese cake.....	\$11.00

and much more...

Prices and menu items are subject to change without notice.

Dining Information

HOURS
Breakfast: 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. daily
Dinner: from 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Happy: Hour 5 p.m. - 6 p.m.

RESERVATIONS
Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort, Juan E Irausquin 75, Palm Beach
Tel.: +297 586-6066 ext 7029, after 5 p.m. extension 7041 or 6166
Email: phxfnb@diviresort.com



THE HOLLYWOOD SMOKEHOUSE



The Hollywood Smokehouse is Aruba's only authentic smokehouse. Family owned and operated, this upscale barbecue joint combines southern cuisine with warm, island hospitality. Meats are smoked low and slow over hickory and applewood, and served with homemade sauces and side dishes from family recipes. The signature blackberry bourbon lemonade is one of many original crafted cocktails to enjoy with the award-winning barbecue.

Sandwiches

PULLED PORK (6 OZ. AND 8OZ.)	\$9/\$11
BEEF BRISKET (6 OZ. AND 8 OZ.)	\$10/\$12
½ POUND SMOKED TENDERLOIN BURGER	\$12
½ POUND SMOKED BONELESS BREAST	\$11

Platters (served with 2 sides)

PULLED PORK (8 OZ.)	\$14
BEEF BRISKET (8 OZ.)	\$16
SMOKED GROUPER	\$17
½ POUND CHICKEN BREAST	\$14
FULL SLAB BABY BACK RIBS	\$24
½ SLAB BABY BACK RIBS	\$15

Taco Wraps (award winning!)

KOREAN PORK W/ ASIAN SLAW	\$11
SMOKED GROUPER W/ BLACK BEANS, SAUTÉED ONIONS, CILANTRO GARLIC SAUCE	\$13
BRISKET W/ BLACK BEANS, SAUTÉED ONIONS, CUMIN RANCH SAUCE	\$13

Lettuce Wraps

Served w/ Korean BBQ Sauce, Asian Slaw & Butter Lettuce

PULLED PORK	\$13
SMOKED GROUPER	\$15
CHICKEN BREAST	\$13

and much more...

Prices and menu items are subject to change without notice.

Dining Information

HOURS
Open Monday through Friday from 5pm to 10pm.
Saturday and Sunday from noon to 10pm

RESERVATIONS
Alhambra Shops & Casino, Eagle Beach
tel.: (297) 280-9989



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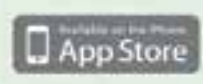
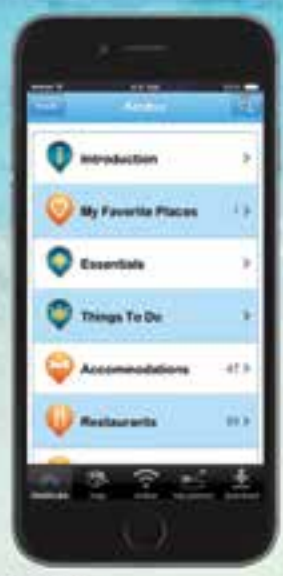
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Small coffee
for Free!



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ARUBA

THE Place to Play!

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Bread Bites (6 pieces)
Coca Cola (2.0 Liters)

One Topping Free!

50.00 All In

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